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IBM CORPORATION
PO BOX 12195
DEPT 9CCA, BLDG 002
RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC   27709

EXAMINER
HUYNH, CONG LAC T

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Paper No. 22

Application Number: 09/089,098
Filing Date: June 02, 1998
Appellant(s): BERTRAM, RANDAL LEE

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Technology Center 2100

Joscelyn G. Cockburn
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 9/10/02.

(1)   *Real Party in Interest*

A statement identifying the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2)   *Related Appeals and Interferences*

A statement identifying the related appeals and interferences which will directly

affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the decision in the pending appeal

is contained in the brief.

(3)   *Status of Claims*

The statement of the status of the claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4)   *Status of Amendments After Final*

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection

contained in the brief is correct.

(5)   *Summary of Invention*

The summary of invention contained in the brief is correct.

(6)   *Issues*

The appellant's statement of the issues in the brief is correct.

(7)   *Grouping of Claims*

Appellant's brief includes a statement that claims 42, 43-73, 82-84 do not stand

or fall together and provides reasons as set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(c)(7) and (c)(8).

(8)   *Claims Appealed*

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(9)   *Prior Art of Record*

Applicant's admitted Prior Art, Figure 4 of Appellants' specification.

(10)   Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

I - Claim 42 rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph and claim 42 rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a):

Claim 42 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Regarding claim 42, if at least one space (1st character type), at least one lower case letter (3rd character type), and at least one lower vowel (the 2nd character type can be any type since it is not defined) are removed from a word or a phrase, entries from figure 2 can not become entries in figure 8 as explained in the specification. Since at least one includes one to all, there are three cases for removing:

- one space, one lower vowel and one lower case letter: Bytes Sent (column heading 34 in figure 2) may become BytesSn, not BytsS as in column 230 of figure 8

- some space, some lower vowel and some lower case letter: Bytes Sent may become BtsS, not BytsS as in column 230 of figure 8

- all spaces, all lower vowels and all lower case letters: Bytes Sent may become BS, not BytsS as in column 230 of figure 8

Claim 42 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the

applicants admitted prior art, figure 4, of the specification.

Note: the rejection of claim 42 below (still based on figure 4) is modified for a better

explanation of the claimed limitations.

Regarding independent claim 42, figures 2 and 4 disclose:

(b) obtaining at least one entry (the table in figure 4 shows more than one entry)

(c) abbreviating a width of the at least one entry by

    (c1) removing *at least* one of the first character type if the at least one entry includes

the at least one of the first character type (removing the space in "Bytes Sent" in col 34

of figure 2 – "Bytes Sent" becomes "BytesSent")

    (c2) removing *at least* one of the second character type if the at least one entry

includes the at least one of the second character type (removing e in "BytesSent" –

"BytesSent" becomes "BytesSnt")

    (c3) removing *at least* one of the third character type if the at least one entry

includes the at least one of the third character type (removing the lower case letter t –

"BytesSnt" becomes "BytesSn")

The prior art does not explicitly disclose defining a first character type as a space, a

second character as a lower case vowel and a third character type as a lower case

letter.

However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention was made to have modified the prior art to include defining the character types

as a space, a lower vowel, and lower character since removing the characters of these

types as disclosed above suggests defining these character types.

II- Claim 43-73, 82-84 rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a):

Claims 43-73 remain rejected and new claims 82-84 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the applicants admitted prior art, figure 4, of

the specification.

Regarding independent claim 43, figures 2 and 4 discloses:

(a) obtaining the at least one entry from the at least one column (figure 2, entries in the

columns 31, 32, 34, 36, 38)

(b) abbreviating a width of the at least one entry (entry System in column 31 in figure 2

is abbreviated into Syste in column 71 in figure 4)

(c) determining if there is another entry containing text data (not obvious shown in the

figure, however, all of the column headings are abbreviated show that this step is

performed)

(d) repeating steps (b) and (c) until all of the at least one entry of the at least one

column are abbreviated (all of the column headings are abbreviated shows that this step

is performed)

(e) displaying the at least one column having the at least one abbreviated entry (figure 4

displays all the column headings in abbreviated forms)

The prior art does not disclose explicitly step(c) determining if there is another entry containing text data. Though it is not obviously shown in the figure, the fact that every entry of the column headings are abbreviated show that for each entry the system determines if there is another entry in the table to perform the abbreviation. Regarding claim 44, which is dependent on claim 43, as in figure 4, the at least one entry is the column heading.

Regarding claims 45 and 46, which are dependent on claims 44 and 45 respectively, figure 4 discloses removing at least one character of a second plurality of characters if the at least one column heading includes the at least one character where the second plurality of character further includes a plurality of lower case vowels (removing at least one lower case vowel "e" in "Bytes Sent").

Regarding claim 47, which is dependent on claim 44, figure 4 discloses removing at least one lower case character if the at least one column heading includes the at least one lower character (by removing the lower case character "m", "System" in column 31 in figure 2 becomes "Syste" in column 71 in figure 4).

Regarding claim 48, which is dependent on claim 44, figure 4 discloses removing at least one space if the at least one column heading includes the at least one space (the at least one space in "Bytes Sent" in column 34 of figure 2 is removed so there is no space in the column heading 74 in figure 4).

<u>Note</u>: the rejection of claim 49 below (still based on figure 4) is modified for a better

explanation of the claimed limitations.

Regarding independent claim 49, figure 4 discloses:

(b) obtaining the at least one entry (the table in figure 4 shows more than one entry)

(c) abbreviating a width of the at least one entry by

    (c1) removing at least one character having a first character type if the at least

one entry includes the at least one character and if the character type is the first

character type (removing at least an upper case character "S" as a character of the first

character type from "Bytes Sent" so that "Bytes Sent" becomes "Bytes ent" -- since the

first character type is not defined, the first character type can be any character type)

    (c2) removing at least one lower case character if the at least one entry includes

the at least one lower case character and if the character type is a second character

type, the second character type being a lower case character (removing e, n, and t,

which are the at least one lower case characters in "Bytes ent" so that "Bytes ent"

becomes "Bytes " since the at least one lower case characters include one or more

lower case characters where lower case characters can include lower vowels and lower

consonants)

    (c3) removing at least one space if the at least one entry includes the at least one

space and if the character type is a third character type, the third character type being a

space (removing at least one space from "Bytes " so that "Bytes " becomes "Bytes" as in

column 74 of figure 4)

The prior art does not disclose step (a) determining a character type.

However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have included determining a character type to the prior art to specifically point out which character type in the string needs to be removed during the abbreviation.

Regarding claim 50, which is dependent on claim 49, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have recognized that the entries in figures 2 and 4 are column headings.

Regarding claims 51 and 52, which are dependent on claim 50 and 51 respectfully, the fact that all of the column headings in figure 2 are abbreviated to be the column headings in figure 4 shows that repeating steps (b) and (c) for each columns and repeating steps (a), (b), and (c) for all of the columns are performed to get the result seen in figure 4.

Note: the rejection of claims 53-55 below (still based on figure 4) are modified for a better explanation of the claimed limitations.

Regarding claims 53-55, figure 4 discloses:

■ removing at least one character having the first character type if the at least one column heading includes the at least one character and if the at least one column heading is wider than a particular column width (removing the upper case character

"S" in "Bytes Sent" in column 34, figure 2 when the column width is wider than 5 –

"Bytes Sent" becomes "Bytes ent")

■ removing the at least one lower case character if the at least one column heading

includes the at least one lower case character, if the character type is the second

character type, and if the at least one column heading is wider than a particular

column width (removing the lower case characters e, n, t when the column width is

wider than 5 – "Bytes ent" becomes "Bytes ")

■ removing at least one space if the column heading includes the at least one space, if

the character type is the third character type, and if the at least one column heading

is wider than a particular width if the at least one column heading is wider than a

particular column width (removing the space in the column heading when the column

width is wider than 5 – "Bytes " becomes "Bytes" as seen on #74)

Regarding claim 56, which is dependent on claim 55, figure 4 discloses truncating the at

least one column heading if the width of the at least one column heading is greater than

the particular column width and if the at least one column heading does not contain any

character of the first character type, the second character type, or the third character

type (the column heading "Bytes Received" is truncated since the width is wider than 5

and it does not contain the space, which is the third character type.   Column heading

32 becomes column heading 72 "Bytes" in figure 4).

Claims 57-70 are for a computer-readable medium of method claims 43-56, and are

rejected under the same rationale.

Claims 71-73 are for a system of method claims 49, 50, 53-56, and are rejected under

the same rationale.

Note: the rejection of claim 84 below (still based on figure 4) is modified for a better

explanation of the claimed limitations.

Regarding claim 84, which is dependent on claim 43, figure 4 discloses that the

abbreviating step further includes the step of sequentially removing predetermined

individual characters until the at least one entry has a width equivalent to a

predetermined number of characteristics:

- removing a space in the column heading if the column heading width is wider than a

particular column width (the space in "Bytes Sent" of column 34 is removed when the

column heading width is wider than 5 -- "Bytes Sent" becomes "BytesSent")

- removing an upper character in the column heading if the column heading width is

wider than a particular column width (next, the upper case character "S" in "BytesSent"

is removed when the column heading width is wider than 5 – "BytesSent" becomes

"Bytesent")

- removing the lower case characters in the column heading if the column heading width

is wider than a particular column width (next, the lower case characters t, n, and e are

removed when the column heading width is wider than 5 – "Bytesent" becomes "Bytes")

- removing ends when the column heading width is 5 ("Bytes" width is 5 so removing

stops)

It is noted that since in claim 43, the character types are not defined, the removed

characters in claim 84 can be any type and the sequential removing in claim 84 can

happen in any order.

Note: the rejections of claims 82 and 83 below (still based on figure 4) are modified for a

better explanation of the claimed limitations.

Regarding independent claim 82, figure 4 discloses:

(b) providing the character string (column headings in figure 4 are provided)

(c) abbreviating a width of the at least one entry by

> (c1) removing at least a first character if the character string includes the at least

first character that is defined as a character type of the N character types (removing at

least a space as a character of the first character type from "Bytes Sent" since a space

can be one of the N character types -- "Bytes Sent" becomes "BytesSent")

> (c2) removing at least a second character if the character string includes the at

least second character that is defined as a character type of the N character types

(removing e, n, and t, which are the at least one lower case characters in "BytesSent"

since lower case character can be one of the N character types -- "BytesSent" becomes

"BytesS")

> (c3) removing at least a third character if the character string includes the at least

third character that is defined as a character type of the N character types (removing at

least an upper case character from "BytesS "since upper case character can be one of

the N character types – "BytesS" becomes "Bytes" as in column 74 of figure 4)

Figure 4 does not explicitly disclose limitation (a) for determining N character types, N

greater than 1.

However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention was made to have included determining N character types where N is greater

than 1 to the prior art since the abbreviation in the prior art shows *the removing the*

characters of different types, which are more than one types of characters. In other

words, the N character types applied must be greater than 1.

Regarding claim 83, which is dependent on claim 82, figure 4 discloses that at the

completion of each of the acts c1, c2 and c3 comparing a remaining portion of the

character string with the character string size and terminating character removal if the

remaining portion of the character string equals the character string size (a space in

"Bytes Sent" in column 34 of figure 2 is removed so column heading 74 does not include

a space when the column width is wider than 5; then lower case characters e, n, t are

removed so column heading 74 of figure 4 does not include the last e, n, t when the

column width is still wider than 5; the upper case character "S" in "BytesS" is removed

so that "BytesS" becomes "Bytes" when the column width is wider than 5; removing

stops when the column width is 5 so that the final result is "Bytes" as seen in #74).

(11) Response to Argument

I – Response to arguments of claim 42 rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, first

paragraph:

Appellants argue that claim 42 rejection under 35 USC 112, first paragraph is an error

since Examiner stated that "the second character type can be any type since it is not

defined" (appeal brief, page 5, 2nd paragraph). Appellants further argue that since the

specification supports the steps b, c, c1-c3 of claim 42 in figures 5-7, the claim is

patentable under 35 USC 112, first paragraph (appeal brief, page 6, 2nd paragraph).

Examiner agrees.

Examiner made an inadvertent mistake in stating that "the second character type can be

any type since it is not defined" which was based on the claim rejection prior the claim

amendment.

However, since the claim now clearly define the first character type as a space, *the*

second character type as a lower case vowel, and the third character type as a lower

case letter, the claim actually <u>does not make a difference</u> from the *assumption in the*

112, first paragraph rejection that the second character type, which is not defined and

so can be any type, is a lower case vowel (see the 112 (1) rejection of claim 42 in the

Grounds of Rejection section above).

A correction is made for appropriately address the 112, first paragraph rejection of claim

42 as follows:

Regarding claim 42, if at least one space (1st character type), at least one lower vowel

(the 2nd character type), and at least one lower case letter (3rd character type) are

removed from a word or a phrase, entries from figure 2 can not become entries in figure

8 as explained in the specification. Since "at least one" includes "one or more", there

are three cases for removing:

- one space, one lower vowel and one lower case letter: Bytes Sent (column heading

  34 in figure 2) may become BytesSn, not BytsS as in column 230 of figure 8

- some space, some lower vowel and some lower case letter: Bytes Sent may

  become BtsS, not BytsS as in column 230 of figure 8

- all spaces, all lower vowels and all lower case letters: Bytes Sent may become BS,

  not BytsS as in column 230 of figure 8

Therefore, claim 42 remains rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph because the

claim *does not address the invention* in such a way that a skilled person in the art can

apply to use the invention.

In particular, steps b, c, c1-c3 disclose abbreviating at least one entry by "*removing* at

least one of the first character type if the at least one entry includes the at least one of

the first character type", "*removing at least one of the second character type if the at*

least one entry includes the at least one of the second character type", and "*removing*

at least one of the second character type if the at least one entry includes the at least

one of the second character type."

It is clear that these steps are for merely removing characters of some character

type and do not care *the size of the entry* and *how to remove a character in the*

entry **as disclosed the specification of the invention (pages 12-16 and figure 7)**.

Though steps b, c, c1-c3 are disclosed in the specification as argued, <u>claiming</u>

<u>abbreviation by merely removing</u> at least one of the characters of the defined character

types *without special features of the invention as disclosed in the specification* produces

subject matter which is unable for one skilled in the art to make or use the invention.

Particularly, by applying merely the removing steps as claimed, <u>figure 2 can not result in</u>

<u>figure 8 which is illustrated for the abbreviation technique of the invention</u> but instead

can be interpreted in any way as pointed out in the 112, first paragraph rejection as

mentioned above.

Also, it is noted that the third character type defined as a *lower case letter* is indefinite

since a lower case letter can be either a *lower vowel* or a *lower consonant*.

**II– Response to arguments of claims 42-73, and 82-84 rejections under 35 U.S.C.
103 (a):**

      - Appellants argue that the rejection of claim 42 based on figure 4 (admitted as a

prior art) in the specification of the invention is an error since figure 4 teaches a method

of truncation whereas the invention is for a method of abbreviation

Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Truncation or abbreviation has the same feature of shortening a character string by

removing at least one character of the string.

Consider the column heading 34 in figure 2 and column heading 74 of figure 4, the

"Bytes" in figure 4 shows that at least one space is removed from the "Bytes Sent" in

figure 2, at least one lower case vowel is removed from "Bytes Sent" (e is removed), and at least one lower case letter is removed from "Bytes Sent" (t is removed). It is clear that in figure 4, removing at least one space, removing at least one lower vowel, and removing at least one lower case letter are performed since the column headings in figure 4 are shortened compared with the original column headings in figure 2 and as mentioned in the Grounds of Rejection above. This part of the rejection is repeated for convenience:

(c) abbreviating a width of the at least one entry by

(c1) removing *at least* one of the first character type if the at least one entry includes the at least one of the first character type (the space in "Bytes Sent" in col 34 of figure 2 is removed– "Bytes Sent" becomes "BytesSent")

(c2) removing *at least* one of the second character type if the at least one entry includes the at least one of the second character type (the lower case vowel e is removed from "BytesSent" – "BytesSent" becomes "BytesSnt")

(c3) removing *at least* one of the third character type if the at least one entry includes the at least one of the third character type (the lower case letter t is removed from "BytesSnt" – "BytesSnt" becomes "BytesSn")

Figure 4 may include more steps to remove S and n so that "Bytes Sent" finally becomes "Bytes" as seen in #74.   The prior art still can be applied since the claim recites "a method **comprising** the steps of ..." That means the claim recites an open ending method.

Claim 42, therefore, is not patentable over figure 4 since **figure 4 discloses at least the removing steps as claimed.**

- Appellants argue that claims 43 and 44 are not obvious over figure 4 because the process used in figure 4 using truncation whereas the process of the claims is for abbreviation (appeal brief, page 10, 2nd paragraph to page 12, 3rd paragraph).

Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Figure 4 discloses and suggests the limitations (a)-(e) of claim 43 as mentioned in the Grounds of Rejection section above. Claim 43 does not include any specific detail how the abbreviation of the data within the column is performed. It is the examiner's opinion that data could have been abbreviated by merely removing the characters for shortening a character string.

- Appellants argue that "In abbreviation as set forth in claims 43 and 44 reduction is done by removing individual or separate defined character. Thus, abbreviation as recited in the claim covers a different process from the prior art and makes claims 43 and 44 unobvious" (appeal brief, page 10, 5th paragraph).

Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Claims 43 and 44 do not mention removing defined characters. The only broad limitation about reduction is "abbreviating a width of the at least one entry." As disclosed in figure 4, all column headings whose widths are shortened compared with

the column headings in figure 2, thereby creating abbreviated (shortened) headings.

Figure 4, again, discloses the abbreviation **as claimed**.

- Regarding claim 84, which is dependent on claim 43, Appellants argue that

figure 4 does not disclose the abbreviating step (appeal brief, page 12, 6th paragraph to

page 13, 1st paragraph).

Examiner disagrees.

Claim 43 states "abbreviating a width of the at least one entry." **Claim 84** states "the

abbreviating step further includes the steps of sequentially removing predetermined

individual characters until the at least one entry has a width equivalent to a

predetermined number of characteristics."

It is clear that the abbreviating step as claimed only includes sequentially removing

characters until the entry has a predetermined width **in general** *without mentioning*

what type of characters to be removed and how to remove the characters (e.g. from the

last character to the first character as disclosed in the specification). It is also noted that

the character types are not defined in claim 43 and claim 84.

Therefore, sequentially removing characters can be interpreted as in the rejection of

claim 84 in the Grounds of Rejection above. That part of rejection is repeated for

convenience:

- removing a space in the column heading if the column heading width is wider than a

particular column width (the space in "Bytes Sent" of column 34 is removed when the

column heading width is wider than 5 -- "Bytes Sent" becomes "BytesSent")

- removing an upper character in the column heading if the column heading width is

wider than a particular column width (next, the upper case character "S" in "BytesSent"

is removed when the column heading width is still wider than 5 – "BytesSent" becomes

"Bytesent")

- removing the lower case characters in the column heading if the column heading width

is wider than a particular column width (next, the lower case characters t, n, and e are

removed when the column heading width is still wider than 5 – "Bytesent" becomes

"Bytes"

- removing ends when the column heading width is 5 ("Bytes" width is 5 so removing

ends)

- Regarding independent claim 49, Appellant argue that the claim rejection is an

error since figure 4 does not teach abbreviation as in the claimed limitations (b) and (c)

but instead truncation. Appellants further argue that combining limitations (b) and (c)

with skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide limitation (a) is improper since

the prior art teaches truncation which is in opposite to abbreviation as claimed (appeal

brief, page 14, 2nd and 3rd paragraphs).

Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Abbreviation or truncation is for shortening a word or a phrase by removing characters.

Claim 49 claims abbreviating by "*removing at least one character* having a first

character type if the at least one entry includes the at least one character and if the

character type is the first character type, *removing at least one lower case character*

if the at least one entry includes the at least one lower case character and if the

character type is a second character type, the second character type being a lower case

character, and **removing at least one space** if the at least one entry includes the at

least one space and if the character type is a third character type, the third character

type being a space."

Figure 4 discloses **removing characters since the entries in the column headings,**

which include characters of different types, are shortened *compared with the*

column headings of figure 2.

Claim 49, therefore, can be interpreted as mentioned in the Grounds of Rejection

above. The rejection is repeated as follows:

Regarding independent claim 49, figure 4 discloses:

(b) obtaining the at least one entry (the table in figure 4 shows more than one entry)

(c) abbreviating a width of the at least one entry by

(c1) removing at least one character having a first character type if the at least

one entry includes the at least one character and if the character type is the first

character type (removing at least an upper case character "S" as a character of the first

character type from "Bytes Sent" so that "Bytes Sent" becomes "Bytes ent" -- since the

first character type is <u>not defined</u>, the first character type can be <u>any character type</u>)

(c2) removing at least one lower case character if the at least one entry includes

the at least one lower case character and if the character type is a second character

type, the second character type being a lower case character (removing e, n, and t,

which are the at least one lower case characters in "Bytes ent" so that "Bytes ent"

becomes "Bytes " since the *at least one* lower case characters include *one or more*

lower case characters where lower case characters can include lower vowels and lower

consonants)

(c3) removing at least one space if the at least one entry includes the at least one

space and if the character type is a third character type, the third character type being a

space (removing at least one space from "Bytes " so that it becomes "Bytes" as in

column 74 of figure 4)

The prior art does not disclose step (a) determining a character type.

However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention was made to have included determining a character type to the prior art to

specifically point out which character type in the string needs to be removed during the

abbreviation.

As stated, during the abbreviation, the *characters of different types* as claimed are

removed from the string. This fact suggests that the character types are determined for

removing. Therefore, a suggestion of a combination of limitations (b) and (c) to (a) is

proper.

Claims 50-52 are rejected as being dependent on independent claim 49.

- Regarding claims 53-55, Appellants argue, "it appears the examiner is using

teachings gleaned from applicant's disclosure to support the rejection of claims 53-55.

The basis for applicant's position is that the prior art set forth in appellant's specification

and relied on by the examiner teaches "truncation" which is in opposite to "abbreviation" taught and claimed by appellant" (appeal brief, page 14, two last paragraphs).

Appellants further argue that columns 72 and 74 of figure 4 (prior art) are both identified as "Bytes" for the non-shortened expressions "Bytes Received" and "Bytes Sent" as in figure 2, whereas figure 8, by applying abbreviation technique of the invention, said non-shortened expressions become "Bytes R" and "Bytes S", which differentiate the two column headings (appeal brief, page 15, 1st paragraph).

Examiner sees the difference Appellants point out in columns 72 and 74 of figure 4 and columns 220 and 230 of figure 8.

However, claims 53-55 state "**removing at least one character** having the first character type if the at least one column heading includes the at least one character and if the at least one column heading is wider than a particular column width, **removing the at least one lower case character** if the at least one column heading includes the at least one lower case character, if the character type is the second character type, and if the at least one column heading is wider than the particular column width, **removing at least one space** if the at least one column heading includes the at least one space, if the character type is the third character type, and if the at least one column heading is wider than the particular column width."

Figure 4 discloses that *removing characters of three different character types from a column heading is performed if the column heading is wider than the particular column width as mentioned in the Grounds of Rejection section above.* The rejection is repeated as follows:

Regarding claims 53-55, figure 4 discloses:

■ removing at least one character having the first character type if the at least one column heading includes the at least one character and if the at least one column heading is wider than a particular column width (removing the upper case character "S" in "Bytes Sent" in column 34, figure 2 when the column width is wider than 5 – "Bytes Sent" becomes "Bytes ent")

■ removing the at least one lower case character if the at least one column heading includes the at least one lower case character, if the character type is the second character type, and if the at least one column heading is wider than a particular column width (removing the lower case characters e, n, t when the column width is wider than 5 – "Bytes ent" becomes "Bytes ")

■ removing at least one space if the column heading includes the at least one space, if the character type is the third character type, and if the at least one column heading is wider than a particular width if the at least one column heading is wider than a particular column width (removing the space in the column heading when the column width is wider than 5 – "Bytes " becomes "Bytes" as seen on #74)

Figure 4, therefore, discloses the abbreviation **as claimed**.

Claims 57-70, 71-73 are for a computer-readable medium of method claims 43-56, and for a system of method claims 49-56, and therefore remain rejected under the same rationale.

- Regarding independent claim 82, Appellants argue that Examiner's statement that limitations (b) and (c) are disclosed in Figure 4 (prior art) appears to be in error since figure 4 discloses truncation in contrast to the abbreviation as claimed that requires several passes through the entry removing defined characters on each pass through (appeal brief, page 17, the last two paragraphs).

Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Claim 82 claims abbreviating a character string by selectively **removing characters** as set forth in c1, c2, and c3 of the claim as mentioned in the Grounds of Rejection above. The rejection is repeated for convenience:

Regarding independent claim 82, figure 4 discloses:

(b) providing the character string (column headings in figure 4 are provided)

(c) abbreviating a width of the at least one entry by

(c1) removing at least a first character if the character string includes the at least first character that is defined as a character type of the N character types (removing at least a space as a character of the first character type from "Bytes Sent" so that "Bytes Sent" becomes "BytesSent" since a space can be one of the N character types)

(c2) removing at least a second character if the character string includes the at least second character that is defined as a character type of the N character types (removing e, n, and t, which are the at least one lower case characters in "BytesSent" so that "BytesSent" becomes "BytesS" since lower case character can be one of the N character types)

(c3) removing at least a third character if the character string includes the at least

third character that is defined as a character type of the N character types (removing at

least an upper case character from "BytesS " so that it becomes "Bytes" as in column 74

of figure 4 since upper case character can be one of the N character types)

Since **figure 4 discloses removing characters** as set forth in c1, c2, and c3 of the

claim, figure 4 **discloses the abbreviation as claimed.**

Claim 83, which is dependent on claim 82, remains rejected since figure 4 discloses

terminating removal if the remaining portion of the character string equals the character

string size as mentioned in the Grounds of Rejection above. The rejection is repeated

for convenience:

Regarding claim 83, which is dependent on claim 82, figure 4 discloses that at the

completion of each of the acts c1, c2 and c3 comparing a remaining portion of the

character string with the character string size and terminating character removal if the

remaining portion of the character string equals the character string size (a space in

"Bytes Sent" in column 34 of figure 2 is removed so column heading 74 does not include

a space when the column width is still wider than 5; then lower case characters e, n, t

are removed so column heading 74 of figure 4 does not include the last e, n, t when the

column width is still wider than 5; the upper case character "S" in "BytesS" is removed

so that "BytesS" becomes "Bytes" when the column width is still wider than 5; removing

stops when the column width is 5 so that the final result is "Bytes" as seen in #74).

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

Cong-Lac Huynh
Examiner
Art Unit 2178

clh
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Conferees
Joseph Field

Stephen Hong

HEATHER R. HERNDON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

JOSCELYN G COCKBURN
IBM CORPORATION 972/B656
P O BOX 12195
RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27709